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Justice's book sees youth revolution

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas' book predicting a youth revolution against the establishment went on sale today. Already it has added fuel to the drive to remove Justice Douglas, 71, from the bench.

The book, "Points of Rebellion," begins: "A black silence of fear possesses the nation and is causing us to jettison some of our libertarian traditions. Truman nurtured that fear. Johnson promoted it, preaching the doctrine that the people of the world want what we have and unless suppressed will take it from us."

Justice Douglas predicts a young people's revolution against what he calls the establishment. He deplores encroachment of the military-industrial complex in university life and increased FBI activity on college campuses.

Rep. Louis C. Wyman, R-N.H., brandishing a copy of the slim volume, charged in the House yesterday that Douglas has "impeached himself by his own hand" and should resign or be removed.

Activities of Justice Douglas, who has been on the court 30 years, have been under scrutiny by house Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., since the Senate's rejection of Supreme Court nominee Clement F. Haynsworth Jr., last year.

A spokesman for Rep. Ford said today a staff member is continuing the investigation but now is on vacation and Rep. Ford "has not made a judgment about proceedings against Douglas."

Rep. Wyman stopped short in his speech of saying he would introduce an impeachment resolution. He said later the drafting of such a resolution was complex and there was the possibility a committee may be appointed to look into Justice Douglas' qualifications.

The constitution cites grounds for impeachment as "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors." Any House member may propose an impeachment. If the House approves the charge is tried by the Senate.

Cries for Justice Douglas to step down from the court erupted in 1969 after publication of a report he was employed by a charitable foundation with Las Vegas gambling connections.

In his at times impassioned speech, Rep. Wyman said "this land of ours is still the land of the greatest individual freedom and opportunity in all this world. It is not the captive of the FBI or the CIA or the military-industrial complex as the justice contends it is. It is not directed by some kind of super-racists or anti-blackmen. Views urging that it is and asserting it to be fact are paranoic." (UPI)